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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/813,653	03/29/2004	Christopher W. Blackburn	1842.017US1	5200
21186	7590	11/13/2006	EXAMINER	
SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.			CHEUNG, VICTOR	
P.O. BOX 2938			ART UNIT	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			PAPER NUMBER	
			3709	

DATE MAILED: 11/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/813,653

Applicant(s)

BLACKBURN ET AL.

Examiner

Victor Cheung

Art Unit

3709

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 08/19/2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 07/06/2004, 07/29/2005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because of the following informalities:

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference characters "10" in Fig. 1 and "501" in Fig 5B have both been used to designate the "Gaming Machine."

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference numbers mentioned in the description: "publish 330," "discover (find) 332," and "interact 334" as described on Page 14, Line 9 of the specification. The reference numbers should be used in Fig. 3.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

Page 7 Line 1: "Auth Server 32" should be --Auth Server 232--.

Page 7 Line 12: "Customer Property 16" should be --Customer Property 216--.

Page 19 Line 24: "gaming device 502" should be --gaming device 501--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 11 and 17 are objected to because of the following informality: the terms "gaming network" in Claim 11 Line 3, and Claim 17 Line 2 should be changed to --gaming network system --.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. Claims 7 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Claims 7 and 17 each introduce the limitation of "wherein the gaming client comprises a service provider..." However, as claimed in independent Claims 1 and 11 (to which Claims 7 and 17 are dependent on, respectively), the service requests being performed are between the Gaming Client and the Event Management Service. In accordance with Figure 3 and with the specification (Page 11, Lines 15-20), it is interpreted that the claimed Gaming Client is represented by Service

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Requestor 302 and the Event Management Service is represented by Service Provider 304. Thus, it is unclear as to how “the gaming client comprises a service provider...” in Claims 7 and 17.

For this office action, it has been interpreted that the claims read as follows:

Claim 7: --The method of claim 1, wherein the gaming network comprises a service provider. --

Claim 17: --The gaming network system of claim 11, wherein the gaming network system comprises a service provider. --

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gatto et al. (US Patent No. 6,916,247).

Re Claims 1, 6: Gatto et al. teach a method for providing an event management service in a gaming network including gaming machines (Col. 2 Lines 37-45), the method comprising publishing an availability of the event management service (Fig. 19-20; Col. 13 Lines 64-67), receiving a discovery request for the event management service (Fig. 19-20; Col. 14 Lines 2-5), registering by a gaming client with the event management service (Fig. 19-20; Col. 14 Lines 18-20), and processing

one or more service requests conforming to an internetworking protocol (Fig. 19-20; Col. 14 Lines 21-24).

Re Claims 2-5: Gatto et al. teach that networking between service requesters and service providers can utilize a universal solution over the Internet using XML (extensible markup language), SOAP (simple object access protocol), WSDL (web services description language), and UDDI (universal scripting discovery and integration). The XML/SOAP/WSDL/UDDI system enables web services to be published by service providers, and for the web services to be searched for and binded to by a service requester. (Col. 15 Lines 57-67)

Re Claim 7-8: Gatto et al. teach a web service including an asynchronous notification of events to a central server from a gaming machine including the Internet protocols and technologies discussed above (Col. 2 Lines 37-45).

Re Claim 9-10: Gatto et al. teach the storing of important events in an audit log in storage where the audit logs and important events are then accessible by central servers (Col. 10 Lines 13-20).

Re Claims 11-20: Gatto et al. teach a gaming network system for performing the method steps discussed above. (Col. 2 Lines 37-45)

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Breckner et al. disclose a plurality of gaming machines in a client-server network, connected to a central machine comprising a tilt event management system.

- Rowe discloses a game terminal data store repository and information distribution system, where the information distribution system comprises a request and authentication steps.
- Ogbuji discloses that the use of WSDL, SOAP, and UDDI in web services is well known in the online services and electronic businesses art.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Victor Cheung whose telephone number is (571) 270-1349. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thurs, 8:00-4:30, and every other Fri, 8:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jong-Suk (James) Lee can be reached on (571) 272-7044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

VC
11/02/2006


KIM NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER